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SALCOMBE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE HEALTH OF THE DISTRICT

FOR THE YEAR 1968

REPORT PRESENTED BY

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH & PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

AREA No. 5 · SOUTH WEST DEVON

DARTMOUTH and TOTNES Municipal Boroughs

BUCKFASTLEIGH KINGSBRIDGE SALCOMBE	Urban Districts	KINGSBRIDGE PLYMPTON ST. MARY TAVISTOCK TOTNES	Rural Districts

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With the Compliments of the

Medical Officer of Health

URBAN DISTRICT OF SALCOMBE

REPORT ON THE HEALTH OF THE DISTRICT

FOR THE YEAR 1968

Preface

Madam Chairman, Lady & Gentlemen,

I present herewith the Annual Report on the Health of the District during 1968. Included in this Report is the Report of your Public Health Inspector.

The Registrar General estimated that the population increased by 10 persons to 2,430. The Standardised Birth Rate at 13.2 per 1000 population is lower than the National Average of 16.9, and is less than in 1967. Likewise the Standardised Death Rate has dropped to 8.1 per thousand population and is considerably less than the National Average of 11.9.

Cancer claimed 9 victims (28% of total deaths). There were 13 deaths (40%) from diseases of the heart and circulation, only one death from a respiratory disease, but there were 2 suicides. There were no infant deaths.

Two cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified and as a result special arrangements were made for the Mass X-Ray Unit to visit Salcombe at the end of the year. The results are stated in the Infectious Diseases section of the Report.

I wish to thank Members of the Council and my colleagues on the staff for all their help during the year.

JOHN WILDMAN

July, 1969 Medical Officer of Health

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Miss M. A. RYAN Tel: SALCOMBE 2281/2

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VITAL STATISTICS AND GENERAL STATISTICS 1968

Table 1

Figures for 1967 are shown in brackets

POPULATION:

Estimated Mid-Year Population of Salcombe Urban District

2,430 (2,420)

Natural increase or decrease	- 8	(-8)
Migration in or out	+18	(+8)
Total increase or decrease	+10	(NIL)

GENERAL STATISTICS:

Area of Salcombe Urban District in Acres

1,297

Number of Inhabited Houses according to Rate Books

1,110 (1008)

Number of Houses per acre	0.856	(0.777)
Number of Persons per acre	1.874	(1.865)
Number of Persons per house	2.190	(2.401)
Dwellings owned by the Council	145	

Rateable Value of the District 1st. April

£123,069 (£119,318)

Sum represented by a Penny Rate

£483 (£483)

VITAL STATISTICS AND GENERAL STATISTICS 1968

Table 2

Figures for 1967 are shown in brackets

BIRTHS:

Standardised Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population ... 13.2 (13.7)

Area Comparability Factor for Births 1.33 (1.33)

Number of Live Births

	Males	Females	Total
Total	11	13	24
Legitimate	11	9	20
Illegitimate	0	4	4
Number of Stillbirths	0	0	0

DEATHS:

Standardised Death Rate per 1,000 population ... 8.1 (8.2)

Area Comparability Factor for Deaths 0.61 (0.60)

Number of Deaths

	Males	Females	Total
All ages - Total	12	20	32
Deaths of Infants under 1 yr.	0	0	0
Number under 4 weeks of age	0	0	0
Number under 1 week of age	0	0	0

Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births ... NIL (NIL)

COMPARISON WITH RATES FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Birth Rate 16.9 (17.2) Death Rate 11.9 (11.2)

Infant Mortality Rate 18.0 (18.3)
(Infants under 1 yr. of age)

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES: Cases Notified during 1968

Table 1

DISEASE	TOTAL	Under 1	1-	5-	15-	25-	Over 65
Measles	2	1	1	0	0	0	0
Tuberculosis (Lungs)	2	0	1	0	0	1	0

Table 2

Incidence by Quarters

DISEASE	TOTAL	1st.	2nd.	3rd.	4th.
Measles	2	0	0	2	0
Tuberculosis (Lungs)	2	0	0	1	1

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VISIT OF MASS X-RAY UNIT

This special visit took place on the 30th. and 31st. December, 1968. A summary of results is as follows:-

	Male	Female	Total
Examined	113	147	260
Abnormal	4	3	7

The abnormalities were as follows:-

Acquired Cardiac Lesion	3
Healed Tuberculosis	1
Bronchitis	2
Not yet diagnosed	1

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NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS 1948 and 1951

Sect. 47 of 1948 Act

No statutory action was necessary for the compulsory removal of persons in need of care and attention.

Sect. 50 of 1948 Act

No burials took place under this section of the Act.

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CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1968

	M	F	TOTAL
B19(2) MALIGNANT NEOPLASM - LUNG, BRONCHUS	3	1	4
B19(3) MALIGNANT NEOPLASM - BREAST	0	2	2
B19(6) OTHER MALIGNANT NEOPLASMS, ETC.	2	1	3
B28 ISCHAEMIC HEART DISEASE	5	1	6
B29 OTHER FORMS OF HEART DISEASE	0	2	2
B30 CEREBROVASCULAR DISEASE	0	3	3
B46(5) OTHER DISEASES OF CIRCULATORY SYSTEM	0	2	2
B33(1) BRONCHITIS AND EMPHYSEMA	1	0	1
B36 INTESTINAL OBSTRUCTION AND HERNIA	0	1	1
B46(7) OTHER DISEASES OF DIGESTIVE SYSTEM	0	1	1
B38 NEPHRITIS AND NEPHROSIS	1	1	2
B46(8) OTHER DISEASES, GENITO-URINARY SYSTEM	0	1	1
B46(10) DISEASES OF MUSCULO-SKELETAL SYSTEM	0	1	1
BE48 ALL OTHER ACCIDENTS	0	1	1
BE49 SUICIDE AND SELF-INFLICTED INJURIES	0	2	2
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	12	20	32

SALCOMBE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT of the Public Health Inspector for the year 1968

WATER SUPPLIES

The whole of the Salcombe Urban District receives water supplied by the South West Devon Water Board. Regular samples of the supply are taken by the Board to ensure its wholesomeness. There has, therefore, been no cause for any action to be taken by the Department in this connection.

SEWERAGE & SEWAGE DISPOSAL

There has been no change during the year with reference to the disposal of sewage. The existing arrangements are as follows:-

Batson Area: Untreated sewage from Lower Batson is discharged on to the foreshore near Batson Green.

Salcombe: Untreated sewage discharges from eighteen outfalls along the foreshore between Island Street and Woodcot.

North Sands: Untreated sewage discharges at a point on the foreshore adjoining the Castle.

South Sands: Untreated sewage is discharged at a point near Splat Cove.

The condition of the foreshore along the Salcombe side of the Estuary is most objectionable and results in complaints being made, from time to time, to the Council. Following the report on the Local Inquiry into the new disposal arrangements progress has continued during the year towards the preparation of detailed plans and documents with a view to having the Scheme commenced during 1969 or 1970.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

1. HOSPITALS

Salcombe is served mainly by the Plymouth and District Hospital Management Committee. There are large general hospitals at Plymouth and the South Hams Hospital at Kingsbridge, which is a general practitioner hospital, has 13 beds. Maternity beds and Geriatric beds are provided at Broomborough Hospital, Totnes, under the Torquay Hospital Management Committee.

2. COUNTY COUNCIL HEALTH SERVICES

Under the National Health Service Act, 1946, the Devon County Council provides the following services:-

Domicillary midwives, home nurses, health visitors, supervisory care of expectant and nursing mothers and children under five, an ambulance service, vaccination and immunisation procedures, home help service, and the care of persons suffering from illness or mental disorders, and the after care of such persons.

3. LABORATORY SERVICES

Bacteriological examinations of pathological specimens and samples of milk, water and ice-cream, are carried out by the Public Health Laboratory at Plymouth. The chemical analysis of water is undertaken by Public Analysts at Exeter.

4. MEDICAL AND DENTAL SERVICES

There are three general medical practitioners and one dentist at Salcombe.

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REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The collection of domestic and trade refuse throughout the district has been satisfactorily maintained throughout the year. Refuse is collected weekly from all the premises in the area and daily, or twice or three times per week, from hotels and business premises, on request.

The use of paper sacks has continued and these and their holders are supplied to many hotels, shops, etc., in the district. They have considerably improved the collection service and the conditions under which refuse is stored prior to collection.

The existing arrangements whereby refuse is tipped at Molescombe Quarry, in conjunction with adjoining Authorities, has continued very satisfactorily. The volume of refuse is increasing annually and requests for additional collections put a considerable pressure on the existing arrangements, particularly during the summer months. During the year periodic collections of bulky refuse were made, when requested.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT

Routine inspections are made throughout the year of food premises in the district and, where necessary, informal action is taken to ensure compliance with the Food and Drugs Act and the Food Hygiene Regulations.

The standard of food hygiene, is, on the whole, satisfactory. Seasonal staff are engaged during the summer months at hotels and other business premises, many of whom have no previous knowledge or experience of food hygiene. It is not possible to inspect all the hotels and guest-houses during the year, the many duties carried out by your staff usually results in Food & Drugs inspection being considerably cut down but, when possible, inspections are made, advice is given to food handlers and improvements obtained.

Routine inspections of food shops and restaurants are also made as often as possible and it is pleasing to note the co-operation one receives from many of the occupiers of these premises.

Samples of ice-cream are taken from the retail suppliers - these were quite satisfactory but advice on cleaning and sterilisation has been given when necessary.

Small quantities of unsound food have been condemned after being voluntarily surrendered. This is mainly tinned foods which have been obviously unfit.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT

Reinspections have been made of premises covered by the provisions of this Act, from time to time. Shops and Offices in Salcombe usually employ very few staff and any contraventions of the Act are dealt with on an informal basis.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT - STATUTORY NUISANCES

It is pleasing to note that very few complaints are made to the Council of statutory nuisance. Any matter which is reported is usually dealt with on a personal and informal basis and results in the nuisance being abated with the least possible delay.

It has not been necessary to take any formal action in this respect.

CARAVAN SITES CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960

There is only one licensed camping site within the Urban District and the conditions imposed in granting the licence have now been complied with. Periodical inspections are made to ensure that the camp is maintained in a satisfactory manner. There are 40 caravans and 10 tents.

Practically the whole of the Urban District is within an area covered by an Article 4 Direction under the provisions of the Town and Country Planning Act and regular inspections of the district are carried out to ensure camping is not taking place within the areas covered by the Direction.

HOUSING

The Housing conditions of the district are satisfactory - there being no unfit houses. Difficulties have been experienced in obtaining Tenders for the construction of 16 dwellings but this was resolved during the year and construction work started early in 1969.

FACTORIES ACT 1961

The following is a summary of information required in respect of the year 1968. A total of 30 inspections was made in respect of 33 premises listed in the Factories Register.

Part 1 of the Act

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health

(i) Factories without Mechanical Power
(Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6)

Number on Register	NIL
Inspections	NIL
Written Notices	NIL
Occupiers prosecuted	NIL

(ii) Factories with Mechanical Power
(Section 7)

Number on Register	19
Inspections	16
Written Notices	NIL
Occupiers prosecuted	NIL

(iii) Other Premises under the Act
(Section 7)

(Electric Stations, Institutions, Sites of Building Operations, Works of Engineering Construction, but excluding Outworkers' Premises)

Number on Register	14
Inspections	14
Written Notices	NIL
Occupiers prosecuted	NIL

2. Cases in which Defects were found ... ... NIL

PART VIII OF THE ACT
OUTWORK

(Sections 133 & 134)

There are no registered Outworkers.

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